

"I couldn't afford to learn it," said the Mock Turtle with a sigh. "I only took the regular course."

"What was that?" inquired Alice.

"Reeling and Writhing, of course, to begin with," the Mock Turtle replied; "and then the different branches of Arithmetic—Ambition, Distraction, Uglification, and Derision."

"I never heard of 'Uglification,'" Alice ventured to say. "What is it?"

The Gryphon lifted up both its paws in surprise. "Never heard of uglifying!" it exclaimed. "You know what to beautify is, I suppose?"

"Yes," said Alice doubtfully: "it means—to—make—anything—prettier."

"Well, then," the Gryphon went on, "if you don't know what to uglify is, you *are* a simpleton."

Alice did not feel encouraged to ask any more questions about it: so she turned to the Mock Turtle, and said: "What else had you to learn?"

"Well, there was Mystery," the Mock Turtle replied, counting off the subjects on his flappers,— "Mystery, ancient and modern, with Seaography: then Drawling—the Drawling-master was an old conger-eel, that used to come once a week: *he*

taught us Drawling, Stretching, and Simple Figuring Coils."

"What was *that* like?" said Alice.

"Well, I ca'n't show it," the Mock Turtle said: "I'm too stupid to be able to do it: I never learnt it."

"Hadm't time," said the Gryphon: "the Classical master, though he was."

"I never went to him," the Gryphon said, with a sigh. "He taught Long-windedness, and used to say."



"So he did, so he did," the Mock Turtle said, with a sigh, "and then he was in his turn; and both he and the Gryphon were in their paws."